

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.	:	09/893,596	Confirmation No. :	6504
Applicant	:	Biondi, et al.		
Filed	:	June 29, 2001		
Art Unit.	:	3693		
Examiner	:	Kirsten S. Apple		
Atty Docket No.	:	23952-0151		
Customer No.	:	29052		

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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

Responsive to the final Office Action dated November 2, 2006, Applicants submit the following amendments, remarks, and Request for Continued Examination (RCE). In light of the amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the claims are patentable, and that the application be allowed.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.